

# SCOTT COUNTY KICKER

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## OBSERVATIONS BY THE KICKER.

### A New Religion Proclaimed by a Federation of 32 Christian Denominations.—The Texas Renters' Union.

In an article last week in which I took Bro. McGuire, of the Jackson Cash-Book to task for saying that people who are so servile as to not wipe "titled" landlordism off the earth ought to eat dog meat, I got just a little too "strong" myself and was probably misunderstood.

The average man often says things that, after he has said it, he realizes that it sounds very coarse. So the editor often says things in print that may be given a different meaning to that intended. This is particularly true when one has to do as much of the mechanical work of the office as I do—thus depriving me of the necessary time to carefully analyze what appears.

In the article referred to I pointed out that the servility of people is due to their ignorance, and that this ignorance of the masses is due to the short-coming of those on whom they depend for information. I put it up to Bro. Mc. in this way—

"And you say that they who are so servile as to stand for this sort of robbery 'ought to eat dog meat'."

"Whose fault is it, Bro. Mc? The worker works. He has little time to read and think, and too often his education has been purposely stunted. But he takes the local paper and depends on YOU. And he goes to church and depends on the MINISTER."

"The only chance the people have ever had to rap landlordism in Missouri was by the adoption of the Single Tax Amendment to the state constitution. Of course the masses were in ignorance as to its meaning and had to depend on the so-called 'educated class' for information."

Where was the Cashbook in that fight? Where was every capitalist newspaper of the state? Where stood the pulpit?

"Why, with the landlords—the Big Pocket-Book—of course. You can't point out an exception. Yet not one in a hundred of these editors or ministers understood the single tax. They just barked because the Big Pocket-Book said, 'So!'"

Now, the trouble is, I just covered a little too much ground. I should have said "generally speaking." As a rule, the average editor is more ignorant than many of his readers—yet he's often honest in the opinions he expresses. I did not mean that Bro. McGuire opposed the single tax from a money consideration, but because he is like the average citizen and works along the lines of least resistance. If I did not like Bro. Mc. and Bro. Ake I would not quarrel with them. But I regard them as among the ablest of Southeast Missouri newspaper men.

So, also, with the ministers. The great majority of ministers perhaps, said nothing about the single tax. I only know of those who were quoted in the daily press and they were all against the single tax—the representatives of one religious creed declaring against it in a body.

But I also knew of some awfully good ministers who were not that way. And I feel sure that the reason every minister who is honest at heart was not that way is because he did not understand it.

But the ministers are waking up. Below you will find a new religion proclaimed by the various Christian denominations assembled at Chicago. Next week I will give you the sermon delivered in St. Louis Sunday by a prominent Catholic dignitary who agrees with Father Heimbacher that Protestants are Christians—all of which indicates a union of all religions.

This is not so because they who are in the saddle want it so. It is because the economic change that is taking place will tolerate nothing else. This division of the masses into races, nationalities and religious and political sects and creeds is passing out.

Chicago, Ill., Dec. 8.—Cheers that greeted its first reading today insure the adoption to-morrow by the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America of a new creed that contrasts greatly with the old style declarations of faith in which immersion and dancing have prominent parts. The new declaration of faith by these thirty-two Protestant denominations is not dissimilar to a political platform and is as follows:

The churches must stand: For equal rights and complete justice for all men in all stations of life.

For the protection of the family by the single standard of purity, uniform divorce laws, proper regulations of marriage and proper housing.

For the fullest possible development for every child, especially by the provisions of proper education and recreation.

For the abolition of child labor. For such regulations of the conditions of toil for women as shall safeguard the physical and moral health of the community.

For the abatement and prevention of poverty.

For the protection of the individual and society from the social and economic waste of the liquor traffic.

For the conservation of health. For the protection of the worker from dangerous machinery, occupational diseases and mortality. For the right of all men to the opportunity for self-maintenance and for safe-guarding this right against encroachment of every kind and for the protection of workers from the hardships of enforced unemployment.

For suitable provision of the old age of the workers and for those incapacitated by injury.

For the principle of conciliation and arbitration in industrial disputes.

For a release from employment on day in seven.

For the gradual and reasonable reduction of the hours of labor to the lowest practical point and for that degree of leisure for all which is a condition of the highest human life.

For a living wage as a minimum in every industry and for the high rate of wage that each industry can afford.

For the most equitable division of the products of industry that can ultimately be devised.

Texas has a renters' union just a little more than a year old. The union held its first annual meeting last month. There were 112 delegates representing 28 counties. During the year it has had a tremendous growth, and it is believed its influence will be felt extensively in the social and industrial life of the working farmers of Texas. The declaration of purpose of the organization as passed at the first convention should be of interest to farmers here. They read:

"As modern industry develops, and the spread of commerce covers the nation, it becomes apparent that land, the source of all wealth, is going into fewer hands; speculation in the gift of God to all His children increases and thus we find that each year it is harder to secure a place to build a home. We believe that the home is the foundation of our civilization, and that any cause that operates to prevent honest and industrious men from building a home should be promptly removed in a lawful manner thru the organized efforts of those most affected."

"We regard the bonus system, the increased crop shares, cash rent, the credit system, the holding of land for speculation out of cultivation, and sub-renting, unjust, inequitable, and can have no other result than the destruction of the home. We realize that the logical working out of the above-mentioned fruits of landlordism has resulted in a steady and continuous increase in tenantry, with no relief in sight. To grapple with these evils we bind ourselves to promote our common interests in the Renters' Union of America, and declare the following purposes:

To secure equity, establish justice and apply the Golden Rule we shall always struggle with all our power against unlimited ownership of land.

To destroy the bonus and cash system and refuse to rent for more than a third in grain and a fourth in cotton.

To assist our members in securing places and refuse to compete for the same.

To educate ourselves in science and government, to establish reading clubs and learn the methods of our exploiters.

To maintain our organization without sectarian or partisan bias.

To promote co-operative farming and co-operative enterprises related to farming as far as possible, realizing that the machinery is beyond the reach of individual renters.

To promote in every honorable way the initiative, referendum and recall, believing that the nearer the government is brought to the people, the better it is for the people.

To bind ourselves together in one great army of emancipation from landlordism and all its attendant evils, so that the American home may be built on a rock, that the teachings of the Bible be lived up to in our daily lives, to the end that we shall live under our own vine and fig tree, and raise our children so that they may receive a thorough education as befits the sons and daughters of the producers of wealth.

Finally, we believe with the good book that 'the land shall not be sold forever, for ye are strangers and sojourners with me.'

A VOICE FROM ENGLAND.

Terrible indictments of industrial conditions in England and in the United States were delivered by Robert Smillie, president of the British Federation of Miners, and James Seddon of the British Shop Assistants' Union, both of whom are members of the British home of commons. Their dramatic eloquence held the delegates spellbound and their talks were frequently punctuated with explosions of applause.

"Over in Scotland," said Smillie, "the workmen sing 'this is my own, my native land,' although few of them have enough native land to grow an ordinary geranium. With in the last few years

thousands of hard-working Scottish peasants have been driven off the ancestral estates and forced to go to the big cities because some American millionaire with money fleeced from American workers wanted to set up parks to sport and hunt on. That has a tendency to force down the price of labor in the cities.

"We are preparing a bill for the government ownership of the mines of Great Britain. I believe within the next few years our bill will be passed a similar bill will be introduced into the commons by the railroad workers' union who want to nationalize all the trunk lines of the island."

"When we get complete control of the English government, we will nationalize everything but the House of Lords. That will turn into an infirmity."

"In America politics are pure (laughter). Here you have no political bosses (great applause) in England titles are regularly sold by the great political parties in return for campaign contributions. And we have learned to believe that parties financed by the capitalists cannot be the friends of labor."

"In one way, however, I think we are better off than you. Here you are tied down by the restrictions of a constitution excellent enough for the age in which it was written. By a recent decision of your state supreme court an act providing for washstands at the entrance of mines was declared without the scope of the constitution—I suppose because it isn't in the constitution that wash-stands must be there. But in strikes the employers can get thugs to shoot you down. That seems to be in the constitution anyway."

"Capital will give to labor only what labor is in a position to compel it to give."

THE MERRY BILLIONAIRE.

From the Chicago World. Every once in a while a handy man who writes vim-vigor-and-victory verses for victims of millionaire, tells something in tall tales to us people who rent small houses in crowded streets.

He tells us we should save our money.

Be economical, George. Pennies make dimes and dimes make dollars.

Save your money and be independent. Tell your wife to read everything in the newspapers and magazines on 'How to earn money at home.'

All great men rose from poverty. It is good to endure hardships and go hungry. This inculcates fortitude.

You may feel your heart grind to see the wife and kiddies eat cheap food and wear shoddy clothes. Yet that's the way all the great men did.

It pays to economize. A Wall Street authority is now quoted as figuring the combined fortunes of ten men in this country as a little over \$3,000,000,000, an average of more than \$300,000,000 to the individual.

Counting each 50 years of age, and saving for thirty years, each one has saved \$10,000,000 a year. O, you merry millionaire!

You are sure the gang that knows how to save. Ten times make one dollar—hey?

A FINE SHOWING.

Do you know that the Socialists more than doubled their vote in this, the 14th congressional district, as well as in the nation?

They cast, and had counted for them 5,043 votes in this district, against 2,485 at the last presidential election.

The greatest gains were made in Dunklin, New Madrid and Ripley counties. Dunklin jumped up from 262 to 1,001; New Madrid from 72 to 562; Ripley from 4 to 157. What will they do next?

Stoddard county was touched up from 277 to 648, and Butler county from 143 to 407 during the past four years. Pemiscot swelled up from 39 to 259.

The Socialists must have rough sledding in Mississippi and Cape counties. While their vote was small, yet their percentage of increase was very creditable. Cape went from 12 to 110, and Mississippi from 12 to 43.

And we must allow for it that many Socialist votes are not counted—say nothing of the many who vote the Socialist Labor ticket by mistake.

There is a law in this state to prevent just such similarity in the heading of a ticket so as to mislead the voters, but I'd like to see somebody get that law enforced—so long as they in the saddle profit from the deception.

SOCIALISTS MEET.

A small group of Socialists met at Morley for the purpose of re-organizing the county on a sounder basis. W. A. Beggs, of Morley, was chosen chairman, and Linson Dabbs county secretary for the ensuing year. His address is Morley, Mo.

J. H. Branam was chosen to go among the people to re-organize the locals without charge.

The next meeting is to be held at Morley the second Saturday in January.

DOINGS OF THE BETTER CLASS. St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 7.—Against a background of Killarney roses Miss Marie Busch, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. August A. Busch, and grand-daughter of Adolphus Busch, the millionaire brewer, was introduced last night to St. Louis society at Sunset Inn in a ball, the rich splendor of which cost more than \$10,000.

Four hundred guests attended, and the value of jewels worn by the women totalled considerably more than \$100,000, while the wealth of the husbands and sons among the guests runs far into the millions.

It was estimated that the money which changed hands on account of the ball for jewels and gowns, floral decorations, champagne supper, individual bouquets, machines and taxicabs chartered, totaled more than \$30,000.

An army of workers spent two days decorating the interior of Sunset Inn. The walls and ceilings were practically hidden by palms and roses.

And that's the way your money goes; Pop! goes the weasel.

New York, Dec. 7.—Vincent W. McLean, the richest baby in the world, had a party yesterday to celebrate his third anniversary. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edward B. McLean, of Washington, invited more than a score of Vincent's wealthy little acquaintances of Washington, New York and Newport to attend the party, which, probably, was the most elaborate affair of its kind ever given in honor of a little boy's birthday.

Vincent is the grandson of the late Thomas F. Walsh, millionaire mine owner, and is heir to a fortune estimated at \$100,000,000. And that's the way your money goes; Pop! goes the weasel.

Washington, Dec. 6.—The most noted veterinary surgeons in Washington have succeeded in restoring Caro, a royal blooded Italian poodle, to his accustomed good health. Caro had a bad cold. Caro is Miss Helen Taft's pet dog and the entire White House staff worked valiantly to have him up and about when Miss Taft returned from her Panama trip.

And that's the way your money goes; Pop! goes the weasel.

WHAT IS IT FOR?

It seems from an article in the Memphis Commercial-Appel, that the Mississippi river commission has again slighted the officials of Memphis and treated them with scant courtesy. The complaint is made that the commission is always indifferent in its treatment of Memphis and the congressman from that district has been asked to introduce a bill to abolish the commission as it is not of any benefit to those whom it is supposed to serve.

It may be that the members of the commission consider they have a private snap, and do not want to be bothered by petty details. We do know that their trips are usually of the "through kind" and mighty few stops are made here.

Our congressman might also join in the matter of ascertaining what the commission is for.—Cape Republican.

Foolish fellows! That commission, like all similar commissions, is doing all it was intended it should do—have a high old time at public expense. Just think of the "high balls" the fine feed and the games of poker they enjoy while out serving the dear people—on a boat ride.

If you or I were members of that commission, would we favor abolishing it?

And our whole governmental affairs are run just that way. It is a snap for those in the saddle, but tough on those who carry the load.

The estimate for "purchase and distribution" of free seed for the coming year is \$3,198,000. This would not build a superdreadnaught, but it would do a lot of things the government ought to do for the farmers which it does not do for lack of money. Of all the wastes in the political manipulation of government funds, the free seed distribution is worst.

MANUFACTURING MILK.

Milwaukee, Wis., Dec. 7.—Milk made direct from hay by a scientific process, which is always sweet and never sours, has been discovered by the Milwaukee Synthesis Company, it claims. It is declared that the milk has all the qualities of the milk from cows, but the manner of making excludes certain germs, which prevents souring. The concern making the milk, which is done under a chemical process, transmutates Timothy hay into milk without its passing thru the stomach of a cow.

Hannibal, Mo., Dec. 6.—Bandits blew up the Perry State Bank at Perry, Ill., and obtained about \$1,800 early today. The robbers used six separate shots of dynamite, each five minutes apart and aroused most of the residents of the town. The reggmen seemed oblivious of the populace. Although the heavy explosions were heard in every part of the town, they remained in the bank forty-five minutes after setting off the first shot and did not leave until they had practically wrecked the building.

Come, or send and get, a 1912 Kicker Calendar.

PROGRESS IN EDUCATION.

From Farm and Home.

Nothing has been watched so critically as the progress and conduct of the agricultural college graduates who have gone back to the farm. Their book learning and new ways have been the object of derision and scorn which has gradually given way to respect as they have made good and proven by their success that the things which they learned resulted in growing larger crops and raising better stock. More important than all this, is that they were able to be of greater service to their communities.

Farmers are becoming more appreciative of what an agricultural education and expert training means. They see the tangible results in dollars and cents through larger crops and greater profits from the farm, and there are those who regret that they had no such opportunity for study.

State and national governments are doing much to provide for all who want to learn more about agriculture. It is not even necessary to go away from home if one is anxious to study, altho it is much better to go to the college. Parents can do nothing that will prove of such benefit to their children as to help them get a better education if they really want it.

"We have a Democratic senate and a Democratic house, as well as a Democratic president, but let no one think it safe to go to sleep" warns Mr. Bryan in his Commoner.

This is almost equivalent to saying that the great and glorious "victory" in November was not all that might be desired—even by a Democrat of the Bryan school. Bryan's warning reminds one of burglars in the neighborhood. If we have to sit up at nights and lose sleep in order to enjoy the blessings of Democracy, we'll get awfully tired. But watch 'em 'do' us good and plenty.

MAKE A LIVELY WINTER.

From Farm and Home.

Have the folks in your neighborhood organize for more social life, good times, better acquaintance, if not, why not? What is life for, except to enjoy it with our fellows? How can we do this unless we get together?

Use the school house as the social center, also as a people's forum for the discussion of problems pertaining to your vocation, or school district, township, county, state or nation. Such a forum held weekly, fortnightly or monthly, can be made awfully interesting. It is the initiative, referendum and recall united to the old town meeting idea. I tell you what, all we "common" folks need is to get together, exchange ideas and use our power.

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SOCIALIST MAYOR LUNN.

Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 7.—In a speech here Geo. R. Lunn, Socialist mayor of Schenectady, N. Y., challenged the courts of New York state "to go the limit and do their worst in their case against him." He reviewed his arrest and incarceration in Little Falls, N. Y., and added: "I shall never pay one dollar for quoting Abraham Lincoln anywhere in these United States. I don't know what they are going to do, and, what is more, I don't care."

Mayor Lunn was addressing a crowd of strikers at Little Falls and was arrested while quoting from Lincoln. He was thrown in jail and later fined \$50. He has refused to pay. Another speaker was arrested while reading the Declaration of Independence and still another while quoting the Bible.

ARKANSAS GIRL IS FARMER.

Calhoun county, Ark., has a woman expert farmer in Miss Mae Patterson of Hampton.

Three prominent citizens of the community make this affidavit: "We made a personal examination of Miss Patterson's acre of corn raised by her under the supervision of the agricultural department of the United States; that we took from said patch of corn two hills, one having ten ears of corn and the other eleven, that said acre of corn ran from three ears to the hill to eleven, and that five or six ears to the hill or stalk was an average of the entire patch."

We further certify that said corn patch was the best we ever saw grown in the state. The corn was not gathered at the time of our examination, but we believe when gathered it will yield more than 100 bushels to the acre."

This is the second crop Miss Patterson has raised under farm demonstration methods. The farm on which she lives with her father has been in constant cultivation for 62 years. So far as reported, she is the only young woman in the state to try intensive farming under the supervision of a demonstrator.

WHAT WILL THEY DO?

Last winter, in order to "make a record" that would get votes the Democratic house passed some very radical measures—expecting, of course, to put it up to the Republican senate or president to kill them.

But these measures are still pending, and there will soon be no Republican senate or president to bear the blame of defeat.

So what are the Democrats going to do?

It places them in an awkward position all right, but they will worm around it somehow.

And four years hence the Wilson administration will be as unpopular as the Taft administration now is.

PUT THAT DOWN.

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IN THE SOUTHEAST.

Malden Merit.—The employees of the Merit office were considerably startled last Friday afternoon when a man dropped dead at the rear of the building occupied by this newspaper. The man was Millard Masters, aged apparently about sixty. He fell heavily on his face, gave a gasp or two and was dead. There is a "short cut" from the City Hall on Main street to the several buildings back of the Dunklin County Bank on Madison street and Masters was traveling this route when death struck him. Dr. Morris was summoned but could do nothing as the man was dead when he arrived. At the direction of the County court Marshall Coons took charge of the body and turned it over to undertaker Craig, no inquest being deemed necessary. Later we understand a son of the old gentleman, who lives west of town, came and buried the body. Back of this sad event is a story with a touch of human interest. Not many years ago Millard Masters was a prosperous farmer in Scott county. Family dissensions arose and there was a separation between him and his wife Masters drifted away. Last summer the wife died at the home of her son near Malden, but the old man could not be located. Last week the son was notified that his father, who had been working as a laborer at Hayti, was sick at that place and needed attention. Young Masters went to Hayti and brought him to Malden leaving him at a hotel to spend the night. The next morning he came after his father, but could not find him. Thinking he had left town the young man boarded a train for Advance in quest of him. In the meantime the elder Masters had been at various places about town, finally getting shaved at a barber shop and leaving by the rear entrance a few minutes before his death. To his room mate the night previous, Masters complained bitterly of his lot and remarked that there was not much in life for him. It is said that he had drank heavily of late years.

Caruthersville Democrat.—A girl named Hopkins, aged about 6 years who, in company with her mother and several small sisters and brothers, were living on the Dorroh farm near Canaday, while in the field picking cotton was so severely burned that she died in a few hours. It is not known how the little girl caught fire, but she is supposed to have been playing with a match and lighted it. The mother, with the children, had been picking cotton, and the little girl, being smaller than the others, had dropped behind and was not noticed until she screamed for help and was then wrapped in a blaze of fire.

Greenville Sun.—Jack, the big Newfoundland dog belonging to Pat Sutton, is dead. He was 13 old and had been sick for some time. To relieve him of his sufferings chloroform was administered. Jack was for many years a familiar figure around town, often visiting the stores and shops alone. He was a big, good natured fellow and a friend to everybody. He frequently accompanied the young folks on their hay rides and many of the school children have known him all of their lives. Characteristic of his race, Jack was ever faithful to his master and true to his friends.

Bloomfield Vindicator.—William and Andrew Slocx and Oscar Murray were arrested by Deputy Sheriff Barham last Friday charged with assault with intent to kill Jesse Ferguson. Ferguson is a youth of about 17 years of age and the others are grown men. The assault occurred at the Idalia church and Ferguson was quite seriously cut in the back and on the arm, but we learn he is now able to be up.

The supreme court has decided that the levy of 25 cents on each acre of land within the Little River drainage district is valid, and it will now be up to the land owners who have held back with payment, to pay the assessment.

When the levy was made it was opposed by a number of land owners, among them Louis Houck, and in the circuit court Judge Faris decided in favor of the district.

Bloomfield Vindicator.—A. D. Wilcox, cashier of the City Bank of this city, was arrested last Wednesday on an information filed by prosecuting attorney Cain, charging him with embezzlement from the City Bank of this place. His bond was fixed at \$5,000 for his appearance at Circuit court. The bond was filed and Mr. Wilcox released.

Campbell Citizen.—Early Monday morning a Frisco box car loaded with baled cotton caught fire and both cotton and car were destroyed. Smoke was discovered issuing from the car and the local Frisco authorities were notified, but only had time to pull the car away from the gin platform before the fire was beyond control.

Malden Merit.—Deputy Marshall Ira Brook of Portageville, who was so seriously wounded while attempting to make an arrest in that city several weeks ago, is back home from the hospital in St. Louis where he was taken for treatment. He is paralyzed from his hip down and will never walk again.

Uncle Sam Ogilvie died at his home in Charleston on Nov. 29, aged nearly 83 years. He came to Mississippi county in 1836 and located at Wolf Island.